

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MEDELL 00019 272208Z

70

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

RSC-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 SCCT-01 AID-05 COME-00

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P 271640Z JAN 75

FM AMCONSUL MEDELLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0995

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA PRIORITY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MEDELLIN 0019

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS

SUBJECT: PROMINENT MEDELLIN INDUSTRIALIST KIDNAPPED

1. MOISES FARBEROFF RABINOVICH, GENERAL MANAGER AND A PRINCIPAL OWNER OF TEJIDOS LETICIA (TELSA), WAS KIDNAPPED JANUARY 24 IN MEDELLIN. THE SEIZURE OCCURRED AS FARBEROFF WAS EN ROUTE FROM HIS HOME TO THE TELS A FACTORY FOLLOWING LUNCH HIS CAR WAS INTERCEPTED ONE BLOCK FROM THE FACTORY BY A PICKUP TRUCK WITH FOUR TO SIX MEN ARMED WITH SUB-MACHINE GUNS WHO OVERPOWERED HIS DRIVER AND ESCAPED WITH FARBEROFF IN THE TRUCK.
 2. THE KIDNAP VICTIM IS A LEADING MEMBER OF THE RABINOVICH FAMILY, A WEALTHY AND PROMINENT JEWISH FAMILY WITH NUMEROUS ECONOMIC INTERESTS IN MEDELLIN OF WHICH TELS A IS THE MOST IMPORTANT. FARBEROFF IS 62 YEARS OLD AND REPORTEDLY IN GOOD HEALTH. FOR MANY YEARS HE HAS WORKED CLOSELY WITH CIVIL, POLICE AND MILITARY AUTHORITIES IN NUMEROUS CHARITABLE AND CIVIC CAUSES AND IS VERY HIGHLY REGARDED IN THE COMMUNITY.
 3. CLOSE FAMILY MEMBERS TOLD THE CONSUL THEY CONSIDER THE MOTIVE FOR THE KIDNAPPING AS STRICTLY ECONOMIC AND ARE AWAITING CONTACT FROM
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THE KIDNAPPERS. THE GOVERNOR OF ANTIOQUIA, MAYOR OF MEDELLIN, FOURTH

BRIGADE, NATIONAL POLICE AND DAS ARE ALL ACTIVELY FOLLOWING THE CASE,

BUT AS OF JAN 27 THERE HAD BEEN NO DEVELOPMENTS.

THE FOURTH BRIGADE IS COORDINATING THE INVESTIGATION. THE FAMILY FEARS

THAT THE HEAVY POLICE ACTIVITY ON THE CASE WILL CAUSE THE
KIDNAPPERS TO DELAY CONTACT INDEFINITELY.

4. THE KIDNAPPING IS THE FIRST IN MEDELLIN PROPER SINCE THE CASE
OF DIEGO ECHAVARRIA MISAS IN AUGUST, 1971 (ECHAVARRIA WAS LATER FOUND

DEAD). HOWEVER, MEMBERS OF THE IMPORTANT MEDELLIN MORA AND
ANGEL FAMILIES WERE KIDNAPPED FROM THEIR FINCAS IN JANUARY, 1973, AND
TWO AMERICAN EMPLOYEES OF THE FRONTINO GOLD MINE WERE KIDNAPPED IN
OCTOBER, 1973. IT IS KNOWN THAT LARGE RANSOMS WERE PAID IN BOTH
CASES. COOPER

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Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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To: STATE BOGOTA
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